THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) India Tourism Development Corporation is stocking Indian Tea, Coffee and Cigarettes belonging to various Indian companies in the duty free shops in addition to foreign goods.

(b) and (c) India Tourism Development Corporation is planning with the support of Ministry of Tourism, to establish Incredible India gift shops at Duty Free outlets which will stock and promote Indian products

Clearance of projects from Orissa

2924. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Orissa has suffered regularly from natural calamities;

(b) whether the State has sent a proposal to the Central Government for construction of dams on the branch rivers of Mahanadi and there is also an imperative need for strengthening the embankments along the river for which a proposal has already been submitted to CWC;

(c) if so, what is the status of these proposals; and

(d) the time-frame within which these would be approved and funds allocated to the State for execution of the above projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The State Government of Orissa has submitted detailed project reports for eight projects envisaging construction of dams on the tributaries of the Mahanadi. Out of these seven project proposals have been techno-economically appraised and accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to compliance of a few observations and one project proposal is under techno-economic appraisal. None of these proposals incorporate flood control benefits. Out of the two embankment strengthening schemes one scheme estimated to cost Rs. 104 crore is under appraisal in Central Water Commission and the other scheme estimated to cost Rs. 14 crore was not approved by the

Planning Commission for execution during the Tenth Five Year Plan. However, the Government of Orissa can utilise the one time Additonal Central Assistance (ACA) sanctioned by Planning Commission as per the Annual Plan of the State for priority schemes.

National project for Restoration of water bodies

2925. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the National Project which has recently been launched for the repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies;

(b) whether this project is proposed to be implemented in any districts of Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated therefor, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Pilot scheme "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to agriculture" was approved for a total outlay of Rs. 300 crores for the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan. The scheme envisages taking up pilot projects by the States in one or two districts for restoration of water bodies having original culturable command area of 40 ha. upto 200 ha. States are to submit Detailed Project Report (DPR) as per guidelines for the scheme for approval of projects by Ministry of Water Resources. Funding pattern is 75:25 (Centre: State). Central share of fund is to be released to States in two half yearly intervals as per provision of funds made in the State budget. The aims and objectives of the project are to restore and augment the storage capacity of the water bodies and to recover and extend their lost irrigation potential. There will be a district-level implementation committee for implementation of district project in which district collector will be the Chairman and Vice-Chairman will be a reputed NGO.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir, Two projects for districts, Sivagangai and Villupuram in Tamil Nadu have been approved for implemention by the State Government. The Project for Sivagangai is for estimated cost of Rs. 1.222